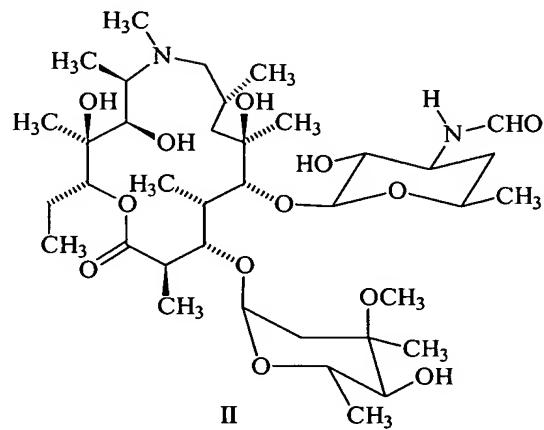


AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. Cancelled.
2. Cancelled
3. (Previously presented) An azithromycin degradation product having substantially following structure II:



4. Cancelled.
5. Cancelled.
6. Cancelled.
7. (Withdrawn) A method to analyze azithromycin purity comprising:
assaying azithromycin using an HPLC to determine the presence of azithromycin degradation products;
identifying azithromycin degradation products; and
quantifying the azithromycin degradation products.

8. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 7, wherein the identification step comprises searching and identifying on the HPLC spectrum azithromycin degradation products having a relative retention time of about 0.22, 0.26, and 0.80.

9. (Withdrawn) A method to determine azithromycin stability comprising:
assaying azithromycin using HPLC to determine the presence of azithromycin degradation products;
identifying the azithromycin degradation products; and
quantifying the azithromycin degradation products.

10. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 9, wherein the identification step comprises searching and identifying on the HPLC spectrum azithromycin degradation products having a relative retention time of about 0.22, 0.26, and 0.80.

11. (Currently amended) A method of determining the presence and amount of an impurity in azithromycin comprising of using determining the presence of an azithromycin degradation product of claim 3 and/or a compound of Formula I, wherein the determination is performed with as a reference standard having the degradation product of claim 3 and/or a compound of Formula I; and quantifying to quantify the amount of the azithromycin degradation product in a sample of azithromycin using the reference standard, wherein the compound of Formula I has the following structure:

